Thursday, March 18, 1999

KSC COUNTDOWN

KSC rehearses for unhoped-for mishap at Shuttle Landing Facility

Chandra being tested, readied for solar array installation next week

▲ **In a "what if" simulated rescue mission** (right) on Wednesday, March 17, the KSC response team trained for the unlikely scenario of a Shuttle mishap at the Shuttle Landing Facility. The Mode 7 simulation of an astronaut rescue exercised all aspects of command and control, search and rescue, and medical procedures required for a successful rescue. The remote location of the mock-up – in the woods west of the runway -- prevented a totally land-based crew rescue, and called on a NASA UH-1 helicopter and four Air Force HH-60 helicopters to locate and then reach and remove the "crew" – five astronaut candidates, one representative from the Vehicle Integration Test office, and one fire/rescue worker. The exercise concluded with airlifted "patients" arriving safely in the emergency rooms of participating area hospitals.

▲ **Payload Update:** The reworked Command and Telemetry Unit and an Interface Unit have been installed on the Chandra X-ray Telescope and successfully tested. Both elements are responsible for handling commands and telemetry to and from the ground. An overall state-of-health test began on March 17. The next phases will be testing the attitude control thrusters and installing and testing the solar arrays that arrived March 9 at Cape Canaveral Air Station.

◆ **Two days left to sign up** for the **All Fired Up Relay Race!** The race will be held at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, March 23, in front of the O&C building. **You must sign up by Friday, March 19 to race!** Stop by the Fitness Centers TODAY! For more information, contact Susannah.Johnson-Cooper-1@ksc.nasa.gov .

◆ **Education: Florida Tech** is accepting registrations for the summer term through April 30. Classes begin May 3. The KSC location is at the NASA Education and Training Center, B Avenue and 2nd Street (Industrial Area). Please call 453-2030 for a catalog and/or schedule. **Embry-Riddle University** will offer an M.S. degree in Industrial Optimization beginning in August 1999. The courses will be taught in nine-week formats. For more information and a schedule of classes, send an e-mail to osborned@db.erau.edu, or contact Dr. Deborah Osborne, program coordinator, at 904-226-7688.

◆ **Did You Know?** Due to extensive construction activities on Launch Pad 39A, all tours, visits, walk-downs, etc., should be conducted on Launch Pad 39B until further notice. For more information, contact Stephen.Bulloch-1@ksc.nasa.gov.

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